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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

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Office Memorandum • ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director of Training

DATE: 30 April 1959

FROM : Chief, School of International
Communism and the USSR

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report No. 17
24 April - 30 April 1959

Document No. 217
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☐ DECLASSIFIED
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)

EDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: EDA MEM. 77/1763

Date: 26 JAN 78 By: ORL

I. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

1. This week is the last week of the Communist Party Organization and Operations course, attended by eight people and the first week of the current IOC, Introduction to Communism, attended by approximately thirty-five people. The interesting thing about these two courses is that the personnel in the small O&O course are regarded by the instructors as being a bunch of "snooks" who tend to sleep through most of the lectures, even [redacted]. Despite this fact they appear also to do good "paper work". The personnel of the IOC, on the other hand, coming from widely disparate backgrounds, are all extremely lively, ask a great many questions, gather around the lecturer even after the last lectures in the afternoon and never sleep even during the "dead man's hour of 2:30 to 3:30".

I have gone over this situation with most of the instructors to try to analyze the problem. As you know, I had intended and, in fact, had suggested reorganizing the O&O course to make it more of a seminar activity; but because [redacted] is going to take over the next running himself and [redacted] was only handling this one running, I felt it was unwise to do it at this time.

[redacted] seems to feel that the dullness of the present O&O class comes from its very small size, and the fact that not enough inspiring questions are asked. On the other hand, he does not believe that the course is long enough to permit much seminar activity and still "get the message across". He also recognizes a certain tendency to be too theoretical in this course but says that in the past when SIC has attempted to discuss practical situations, they have been admonished, apparently at the behest of CI/ICD, that this is "operational" and that they should not concern themselves with it. It is my feeling that the O&O course is not really the advanced course on Communism which it should be. I shall, therefore, suggest to [redacted] that this course, which will probably always be to a relatively small group, reduce its lecture material by being sure that the review of what the students would have learned in IOC or of which they are generally aware anyway be covered in the most condensed form and that

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the other lectures be monitored to carefully prevent any duplication and reiteration. I shall suggest that the additional time which should then be available be turned into a seminar activity with topics of current interest for discussion being suggested each day for the following day. For example, current situations in Iraq, Bolivia, Cuba, etc., could be raised for discussions when the lecture is on united front strategy with respect to popular fronts etc. I do not concede that these would be operational discussions and even if they are it certainly seems that the mass of material in the newspapers and in the documents normally available to these individuals can be the basis for seminar activity without treading on the toes of ICD.

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2. As you are aware I am planning on being away for about two weeks starting sometime around 7 or 8 May. [REDACTED] will supervise the ACO course. [REDACTED] will still provide the opening lectures as usual. [REDACTED] and I have arranged for all the necessary guest lecturers for the whole course. I will hope to be back and possibly sit in on any panel discussions at the end of the course. In any event I visualize no difficulties with the present running of the ACO.

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3. [REDACTED] has still not seen [REDACTED] so far as I know. I think it is quite clear that he will leave the Agency this summer as he plans. However, he is working diligently both on present lecture and tutorial activities and on the planned [REDACTED] in June. He was most anxious to learn something about the [REDACTED] language. He told me that there appeared to be only one person in the Agency, [REDACTED] who knew anything about the language. He approached [REDACTED] to try to get some outside tutoring but apparently [REDACTED] did not have time and was not willing to take time outside of hours to assist.

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II. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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1. Last week's report showed a three-hour tutorial on Thursday for the [REDACTED]. This, in fact, was postponed from Thursday afternoon until Friday, and although done during this current period is not listed again.

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2. SIC had originally planned to send [REDACTED] for a period of one week's tutorial beginning 11 May. This was cancelled when it was decided that the instructors in the [REDACTED] could handle it. It has since been determined the level of the individuals to be trained is such that it would be more advisable for SIC to assume the responsibility. [REDACTED] will handle the tutorial in [REDACTED] from May 11 through May 15. We believe the desk will pay the bill.

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